Join author Lisa Gruenberg for a virtual reading and discussion of her book, My City of Dreams. In this second-generation Holocaust memoir Gruenberg, a Syracuse native, confronted with her elderly father’s flashbacks and nightmares, begins to inhabit the story of his sister Mia, who disappeared into Germany in 1941 when she was just fifteen years old. After her father’s death in 2005, Gruenberg traveled to Vienna, Germany and back to her childhood in Syracuse to explore this lost landscape, and to trace the fates of Mia, their extended family, friends and neighbors. She wove her own story with theirs, linking them together with photographs, archival and primary source material, family letters, diaries, her father’s writing, his genealogy research, and the joyful tales he told her long ago.

Alex Beam, author of Life and Death Inside America’s Premier Mental Hospital writes: “The past is a foreign country; sometimes best left unexplored. But Gruenberg takes the trip, figuratively and literally, in an attempt to recreate her father’s Vienna and the events that exterminated his sister, his parents, and 65,000 other Austrian Jews.”

Learn more about My City of Dreams here: lisagruenberg.com

Dr. Lisa Gruenberg is a physician, medical educator, and writer based in Boston. Her essays have been published in Ploughshares, Vital Signs, Hospital Drive, The Intima, a Journal of Narrative Medicine, and The Michigan Quarterly Review. Her short story, Keiskamma, won the 2012 Artist Fellowship from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. My City of Dreams, was published in September 2019 by Cambridge-based TidePool Press and is available on Kindle, Audible and shortly in paperback.